

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

DOUGLAS W. FLAUGHER,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOEL D. HASTINGS, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:12-cv-01196-GMN-CWH

**FINDINGS AND
RECOMMENDATION**

This matter is before the Court on Plaintiff's Application for Leave to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (#1), filed July 6, 2012.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a), a filing fee of \$350.00 is required to commence a civil action in federal district court. The court may authorize the commencement of an action "without prepayment of fees and costs or security therefor, by a person who makes affidavit that [s]he is unable to pay such costs or give security therefore." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a).

Plaintiff submitted the affidavit required by § 1915(a) to show that he is unable to prepay fees and costs or give security for them. In Plaintiff's Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*, Plaintiff reports that he earns wages of \$1,032 monthly and owns approximately \$350 in checking or savings account along with a 1999 Toyota Corolla. Additionally, Plaintiff indicates that his expenses are \$110 per month with an additional \$120 per year and he has no dependants. Based on this information, the Court finds that Plaintiff's income is sufficient to pay the filing fee in this case. *See Ross v. San Diego County*, 2008 WL 440413 (S.D. Cal. Feb. 14, 2008) (finding plaintiff did not qualify to proceed *in forma pauperis* where she received \$2,100 in disability payments, owned a car and house, and "carried significant debt"); *see also Samuel v. Nat'l Health Svs., Inc.*, 2006 WL 2884795 at *1 (E.D. Cal. Oct. 10, 2006) (denying IFP application where plaintiff received \$752.40 per month in Supplemental Security Income and had received a \$10,000.00

1 judgment and owned a van valued at \$500.00) (*citing Green v. Cotton Concentration Co.*, 294
 2 F.Supp. 34, 35 (D.C. Tex. 1968) (affidavit of indigency insufficient to establish indigency where
 3 both employed plaintiffs earned less than \$350); *Matter of Anderson*, 130 B.R. 497, 500 (W.D.
 4 Mich. 1991) (earnings of \$950 per month insufficient to show indigency where poverty level in
 5 Michigan was \$6,620 per year); *In re Fontaine*, 10 B.R. 175, 177 (D. R.I. 1981) (no indigency
 6 where weekly net pay of \$132, no dependents, and lived with mother to whom she paid \$25 per
 7 week); *Rucker v. County of Santa Clara*, 2003 WL 21440151 (N.D. Cal. June 17, 2003) (sufficient
 8 showing of indigency where plaintiff received \$748.42 per month, and that amount was exceeded
 9 by his outstanding monthly expenses and debt)).

10 Plaintiff's income and other assets far exceed his expenses. Accordingly, the Court finds
 11 that Plaintiff has not satisfied the indigency requirement of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1) and he is able to
 12 pay the costs of commencing this action. Having concluded that Plaintiff is not entitled at this time
 13 to proceed *in forma pauperis*, the Court need not screen the complaint under 28 U.S.C. §
 14 1915(e)(2)(B), which requires the dismissal of the case at any time if the Court determines that it is
 15 frivolous or malicious or fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted or seeks monetary
 16 relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief.

17 Based on the foregoing and good cause appearing therefore,

18 **RECOMMENDATION**

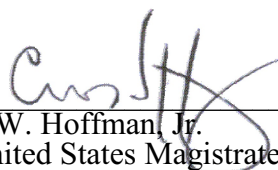
19 **IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED** that Plaintiff's Application to Proceed *in Forma*
 20 *Pauperis* (#1) be **denied**. Plaintiff should be required to pay the filing fee of \$350.00 within thirty
 21 days from the date that an Order denying Plaintiff's Application is entered. Failure to comply with
 22 that Order will result in the Court recommending dismissal of this action.

23 **NOTICE**

24 Pursuant to Local Rule IB 3-2, any objection to this Finding and Recommendation must be
 25 in writing and filed with the Clerk of the Court within fourteen (14) days. The Supreme Court has
 26 held that the courts of appeal may determine that an appeal has been waived due to the failure to
 27 file objections within the specified time. *Thomas v. Arn*, 474 U.S. 140, 142 (1985). This circuit
 28 has also held that (1) failure to file objections within the specified time and (2) failure to properly

1 address and brief the objectionable issues waives the right to appeal the District Court's order
2 and/or appeal factual issues from the order of the District Court. *Martinez v. Ylst*, 951 F.2d 1153,
3 1157 (9th Cir. 1991); *Britt v. Simi Valley United Sch. Dist.*, 708 F.2d 452, 454 (9th Cir. 1983).

4 DATED this 19th day of October, 2012.

5
6 
7 C.W. Hoffman, Jr.
8 United States Magistrate Judge
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28